

Servicemembers May Be Eligible Additional Compensation at Retirement

Men and women of all branches of Service may be eligible for additional compensation when they retire. Retiring servicemembers may have something more to look forward to than just their retirement! After veterans start drawing military retirement pay, they may also be entitled to additional tax-free compensation through the Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC) program.

Program History:

Since the late 1890's retired veterans with disabilities waived their regular retired pay to receive Veterans Administration (VA) disability compensation. This system has been unique to military retirement, since all other Federal service retirees are entitled to receive their full regular retirement compensation and disability compensation.

Enacted by Congress on December 2, 2002 the Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC) program restores military retired pay to eligible retired veterans with *combat-related* injuries.

The CRSC program is a special part of a larger legislative initiative to restore military retirement compensation that is on par with Federal service benefits.

As a result of this legislation, Congress authorized two programs for disabled retired veterans: Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC) Program and Concurrent Retirement and Disability Program (CRDP).

What is CRSC?

CRSC provides retired veterans a monthly compensation replacing the VA disability offset. Eligible veterans with 20 or more years of service that have "combat related" VA-rated injuries will no longer have their military retirement pay reduced by the amount of their VA disability compensation. Instead they will receive both their full military retirement pay and their VA disability compensation.

Who is eligible for CRSC?

To be eligible for the award, veterans *must meet all* of the following criteria:

1. Active, Reserve or medically retired with 20 years of creditable service
2. Have 10% or greater VA rated injury
3. Receiving military retired pay
4. Military retired pay is reduced by VA disability payments (VA Waiver)

AND... must be able to provide documentary evidence the injury was a result of:

- Training that simulates war
- Hazardous duty
- Instrumentality of war, or
- Armed conflict

What is the difference between CRSC and CRDP?

- CRSC is specifically for retired veterans with combat-related injuries.
- CRSC is NOT subject to either taxation.

- CRDP is for retired veterans with service-connected injuries.
- CRDP payments are taxed.

To learn more about the differences between the two programs visit www.crsc.army.mil.

How do retired veterans apply for CRSC?

Servicemembers meeting the CRSC eligibility requirements should follow the steps below when applying for CRSC:

Step 1- Review CRSC eligibility criteria

Step 2- If you retired from the Army, visit the Army CRSC website to obtain valuable claim resources and a claim form at www.crsc.army.mil or call 1-866-281-3254

Step 3- Gather your documentary evidence: copies of all DD 214/215s, medical records, VA rating decision narratives and the VA code sheets

Step 4- Determine if your VA decisions state "HOW" the injury occurred (If not, go through your personnel and medical records to see if you can find any evidence to verify the claim)

Step 5- Complete your CRSC claim online at www.crsc.army.mil or call and ask a claim form be mailed to you. For all other Service components submit your claim to the branch of Service from which you retired (listed below).

Do you think you may be eligible?
Apply Today!

AIR FORCE

United States Air Force
Disability Division (CRSC)
550 C Street West Ste 6
Randolph AFB TX 78150-4708
Phone: 1-800-616-3775
Website: www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/disability/CRSC/CRSCnew.htm

ARMY

Department of the Army
U.S. Army Physical Disabilities Agency/
Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC)
200 Stovall Street
Alexandria, VA 22332
Phone: 1-866-281-3254
Email: CRSC.info@us.army.mil
Website: www.CRSC.army.mil

COAST GUARD

Commander (adm-1-CRSC)
U.S. Coast Guard
Personnel Command
4200 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22203-1804

NAVY and MARINE CORPS

Secretary of the Navy Council of Review Boards
Attn: Combat-Related Special Compensation Branch
720 Kennon Street SE, Suite 309
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374
Phone: 1-877-366-2772
Website: www.hq.navy.mil/corb/CRSCB/combatrelated.htm